

MINUTES FOR MEETING OF DECEMBER 11, 2024

The regular meeting of the Pine Grove Township Supervisors was held on Wednesday, December 11, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall. Supervisors present were Douglas Smith, Robert Nelson and Linda Farnsworth. Others present were Dave Schwanke, Rich Barrett, Dave McJunkin and Julie Parmenter.

Douglas Smith called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

The meeting opened with the pledge to the flag.

Douglas Smith read over the agenda and asked if there were any comments from visitors or residents. There were no visitor's comments.

A motion was made to approve the minutes for the November 22, 2024 meeting by Bob Nelson. Linda Farnsworth seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

Doug Smith made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report dated December 11, 2024. Linda Farnsworth seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

Bob Nelson made a motion to approve the payment of bills in the amount of \$55,675.28 for the general fund, \$20,194.72 for the sewer fund, \$1,100.00 for the sewer II fund, \$1,628.73 for the state fund and \$13,699.94 for the water fund. Also, approval for payment of any utilities that may come due before the next regular scheduled meeting. The motion was seconded by Doug Smith. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

Dave reported that the big truck is back and they are waiting on a part that has been ordered to come in. He advised that they are able to use the truck for the time being with some minor adjustments. The sluice pipe for Old State has been picked up but not yet installed.

They managed during the recent snowfall even though they were shorthanded. Dave noted that they had some minor equipment problems but were able to handle things.

There was some discussion on hiring of a new employee to cover for Nathan, who is currently on short term disability from a medical issue. Dave advised that he has been looking into a couple of possible prospects and stated that Dustin Morningstar seems like a good candidate for the position. He has a CDL and can operate the equipment we have. The Supervisors advised that we will go ahead and hire Dustin Morningstar until, at least Spring. They will approve a starting wage of \$22.00 per hour with benefits. After 30 days they will review his performance. Doug Smith made a motion to hire Dustin Morningstar as of December 9, 2024 at \$22.00/hour with benefits. Linda Farnsworth seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

The Russell Fire Dept. informed the Supervisors that the hydrant on S. Main Street has been completed. They are making some headway with the records that a former member had encumbered.

Dave Schwanke advised that the number of dropped EMS calls has been higher than they would like. They are working to make improvements on this and the dropped calls have been slowly declining. They are actively trying to recruit more volunteers.

The 2025 engineering services agreement received from Stiffler McGraw was reviewed. The Supervisors determined that they would continue to use Stiffler McGraw for their future engineering projects but they decided not to sign the agreement.

The 2025 Budget with revenues set at \$660,400.00 and expenses at \$644,350.00 was reviewed. Bob Nelson made a motion to approve the 2025 Budget as presented with .00025 mills being redirected from the fire tax and applied to an ambulance tax. It was seconded by Linda Farnsworth. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

Next was a request for planning waiver and non-building declaration. This is in conjunction with the Eernisse subdivision. The Supervisor's reviewed the waiver and have no issues with this.

The Weldon Subdivision located along Route 957 was reviewed. This proposal combines three separate parcels, Property #1 – Parcels 1 & 2, and Property #2, into a single parcel with a Parcel ID #WN-745-697100.

An email that was received from Michael Lyon, with Planning & Zoning, regarding the Hazard Mitigation Plan was brought up. It was relayed that the risk factor section of the plan had not been completed. The secretary inquired with Rich Barrett to see if he was completing this or if the Supervisor's needed to take care of this. Rich advised that he had submitted this previously but for some reason it was never received. He has since resubmitted this to MCM Consultants and was advised that they did receive it.

The Supervisor's set the employee Christmas party for Friday, December 20th. Lunch will be provided. The Supervisor's made a motion to purchase lunch and provide gift cards in the amount of \$100 for the road crew and office employees. Doug Smith made a motion to approve this and it was seconded by Linda Farnsworth. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

There was a short discussion on the December 27th meeting. It was debated on possibly changing this meeting to December 20th but after review it was determined that they would leave the next meeting as scheduled for December 27th.

Bob Nelson made a motion for adjournment at 8:00 PM. Linda Farnsworth seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

Sincerely



Julie Parmenter